

# Do I Have a Good Topic?



## 8 Questions to Help You Know

1

### Does my topic fit the National History Day theme?

Competition rules require that a topic fits the NHD theme. Judges will ask how your topic relates.

5

### Is my topic unique?

Unique topics are more likely to do well in competition. When well done, they not only are original, but also are interesting from the start.

2

### Did my topic change history?

Topics must have helped to shape history. Judges will ask you to explain your topic's historical context, alternate perspectives, significance and impact. It is up to you to analyze your topic and prove HOW it CHANGED history.

6

### Are there primary sources for my topic?

Projects that use primary sources are better.

3

### Is my topic too small?

It probably is too small *if* you do not have enough resources (primary and secondary) to research it well.

7

### Can I find photographs, images or video for my project if I create an exhibit, documentary or web site?

If your topic took place before the mid-1800s, this might be difficult.

4

### Is my topic too large?

It probably is too large *if* you have too many resources to finish your research, analyze the topic and draw conclusions.

8

### Will I enjoy researching and learning about this topic?

History should be fun to learn. Choose a topic that makes *you* want to learn more. You will become an expert on your topic and teach people something they never knew before.